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IF Directorate completes Joint Defensive Planner R&D

by Fran Crumb, Information Directorate

ROME, N.Y. — Air Force Research Laboratory's Information Directorate scientists and engineers recently completed transitioning technology for the Joint Defensive Planner (JDP), an \$18.9 million research and development program.

Jointly funded by the Air Force and the Missile Defense Agency, the JDP 2.0 software release was officially transitioned to Electronic Systems Center (ESC), Hanscom Air Force Base, Mass., in June 2001 for development testing. JDP evolution continued to final developmental test and evaluation, culminating with final program transition to ESC this past June.

The objective of the program, managed by the directorate's Information Systems Division, was to develop a single, joint area air and missile defense plan to support the Combatant Commander, Joint Force Air Component Commander and Area Air Defense Commander's battle staffs across all phases of a campaign. JDP assists the planners on these staffs in utilizing limited defensive resources tasked to counter projected enemy courses of action against rank-ordered strategic and operational assets.

JDP is a Theater Battle Management Core System mission application, as well as a Global Command and Control System segment that supports planning for joint service and coalition forces' active defense against aircraft (manned and unmanned), cruise missiles and ballistic missiles in a theater of operations. It provides assistance to defensive planners responsible for planning, evaluating and implementing theater air and missile defense. It is capable of supporting in-garrison long-term deliberate planning, short-term contingency planning, in-theater plan refinement, and continuous plan repair.

"JDP is the first-ever decision support tool that aids the operational users in the defensive planning process and provides the necessary analysis capability to provide a comparison of various defensive designs," said Michael Seifert, program manager. "The impact is better, faster campaign planning inside the enemy's decision-making process, and increased pace of U.S. command and control for higher ops tempo. @